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Annual Report

ON THE HEALTH OF THE

Ormskirk Urban District

DURING THE YEAR

1957

By

J. GORDON HAILWOOD, M.D., CH.B., M.R.C.S.,

L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.



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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Medical Officer of Health.

Ormskirk Urban District Council

Chairman . . . COUNCILLOR J. ASPINWALL, J.P.
Vice-Chairman COUNCILLOR L. C. BENNETT.

Health Committee

Chairman . . . COUNCILLOR H. E. BALLANCE.
Vice-Chairman COUNCILLOR H. G. HUGHES.

COUNCILLOR L. J. BROWN.
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T. TYRER.
W. L. WOOD.
W. WOODS.

Staff of Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health :

J. G. HAILWOOD, M.D., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspectors :

NORMAN W. CHADWICK, M.R.San.I.
WILLIAM HIGGINS, A.R.San.I.

Clerical Assistant :

MRS. J. FINCH.

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my 12th Annual Report on the health of Ormskirk.

The general health of the residents remained satisfactory during the year. There was a reduction in the number of infectious diseases—147 cases being notified compared with 230 in 1956. The decrease was chiefly due to a reduction in the number of cases of measles. There was, however, a small outbreak of Acute Poliomyelitis in the autumn when 14 cases occurred of which 2 have since died. Although only a comparatively small number, each case causes concern and frequently residual paralysis. It is hoped that parents will take advantage of the facilities now available for vaccination against the disease, since this course will undoubtedly reduce the incidence of Poliomyelitis which has a high morbidity, although not a high mortality.

The birth rate again showed an increase at 15.9 per 1,000 population compared with 13.8 in 1956, while the actual number of births was 331—an increase of 48 on the previous year. The infant death rate was 12 per 1,000 live births compared with 25 in the previous year. This figure compares very favourably with the rate for England and Wales which is 23. There were only 4 deaths under the age of one year, while 3 of these occurred under one month and were mostly unavoidable, being due to prematurity or congenital malformations.

The general death rate showed a reduction at 11.7 per 1,000 population compared with 12.2 the previous year, and there were again no maternal deaths.

Further progress was made with slum clearance during the year, and the poorer property in the town continues to be dealt with steadily. This work, together with the increased duties under the Housing (Repairs and Rents) Act, 1954, and other new legislation, in addition to the increase in the amount of meat to be inspected following slaughter, has increased very considerably the duties and work of the Public Health Inspectors. During the year 1,034 premises were inspected, 384 defects or nuisances were discovered and 361 remedied.

In conclusion, I would thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their interest and support during the year, and the members of the staff for their ready help and co-operation at all times.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. G. HAILWOOD,

Medical Officer of Health.

July, 1958.

Annual Report for 1957

— :o:—

SECTION 1.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area. 15,608 acres.

Population.—The population according to the 1951 Census was 20,554, but the Registrar General estimates that at the middle of 1957 the population was 21,420, on which figure statistics in this Report are based.

Number of Inhabited Houses. At the end of 1957 the number of inhabited houses, according to the Rate Books was 6,752.

The Rateable Value at the end of the year was £246,889. and the sum represented by a penny rate was £983.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The Urban District of Ormskirk occupies 15,608 acres of the West Lancashire plain. The ancient town of Ormskirk is situated on the highest ground in the area, and the village of Newburgh is pleasantly sited on a small hill, otherwise the district is flat or gently undulating.

Three-quarters of the district is rural in character. The chief interest of the population is agriculture or allied employment; indeed, Ormskirk is locally known as the capital of this large agricultural area, and the ruling prices at the weekly market are quoted all over the country.

Burscough is a small town 3 miles north of Ormskirk, and has a large permanent Army Ordnance Depot. Apart from agriculture, the chief industries include a brass foundry, an ironfoundry, 2 timber yards, a printing and bookbinding works, a flour mill, an oatmeal mill, three brickworks, and factories for the manufacture of cakes and biscuits, wooden handles, neckwear, fertiliser and automobile oils.

Transport facilities are good. The main L.M.S. line from Liverpool to Scotland crosses the Southport-Manchester line at right angles in the centre of the district, and there are six railway stations in the area. Road transport services are good ; and there is also the Leeds and Liverpool Canal for the carriage of heavy merchandise.

Since 1931 the Urban District has included, in addition to Ormskirk, the townships of Lathom and Burscough, parts of Aughton, Bickerstaffe and Scarisbrick, and the hamlets of Newburgh and Westhead.

There was little progress or development of a civil nature during the War years, and as a result of the enforced inactivity in the building of houses during that period the cessation of hostilities saw an acute shortage of dwelling houses. During the following years many families were forced to live in lodgings or rooms and there was an increase in overcrowding.

This shortage of houses is still the chief difficulty from which the population suffers.

Good progress has been made by the Council in their efforts to provide houses and since the end of the war 832 houses and 20 flats have been built by them, in addition to which 354 houses have been built by other authorities and by private enterprise.

In 1957 the Council erected 59 houses and 12 flats, and 68 houses were built by private enterprise.

VITAL STATISTICS.

				1957	1956		
Home population—(Estimated by Registrar-General—mid year)				21,420	21,350		
				M.	F.		
Live Births—	Legitimate	159	157	}	Total 331	283	
	Illegitimate	10	5				
Birth Rate per 1000 population							
				Crude	15.5	13.3	
				Adjusted	15.9	13.8	
Stillbirths	M.	2	}	Total	7	5	
	F.	5					
Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births				21	17		
Deaths.							
		Males	140	}	Total	254	265
		Females	114				
Death Rate per 1000 population							
				Crude	11.9	12.4	
				Adjusted	11.7	12.2	
Maternal Mortality							
Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion				Nil.	Nil.		
Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births				Nil.	Nil.		
Infant Mortality							
Infants under 1 year—death rate per 1000 live births				12	25		
Neo-natal Mortality							
Infants under four weeks of age—death rate per 1000 live births				9	18		

Year	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
									Total		Neo-natal	
	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop n.	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop n.	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births
1957	331	*	254	11.9	7	21	nil	nil	4	12	3	9
1956	283	13.3	265	12.4	5	17	nil	nil	7	25	5	18
1955	244	11.9	269	11.8	11	43	nil	nil	3	12	2	8
1954	243	11.4	277	13.0	5	20	nil	nil	7	29	4	16
1953	293	13.8	237	11.2	7	23	nil	nil	10	34	9	31
1952	268	12.7	248	11.7	6	22	2	7.30	11	41	8	30
Ave. 5 years— 1952-1956		12.7	—	12.0	—	25	—	1.46	—	28	—	—

* Adjusted (live birth-rate) (comparability factor, 1.03) = 15.9 per 1,000.
(death-rate) (comparability factor, 0.99) = 11.7 per 1,000.

The Birth rate for England and Wales was 16.1, for Ormskirk 15.5.

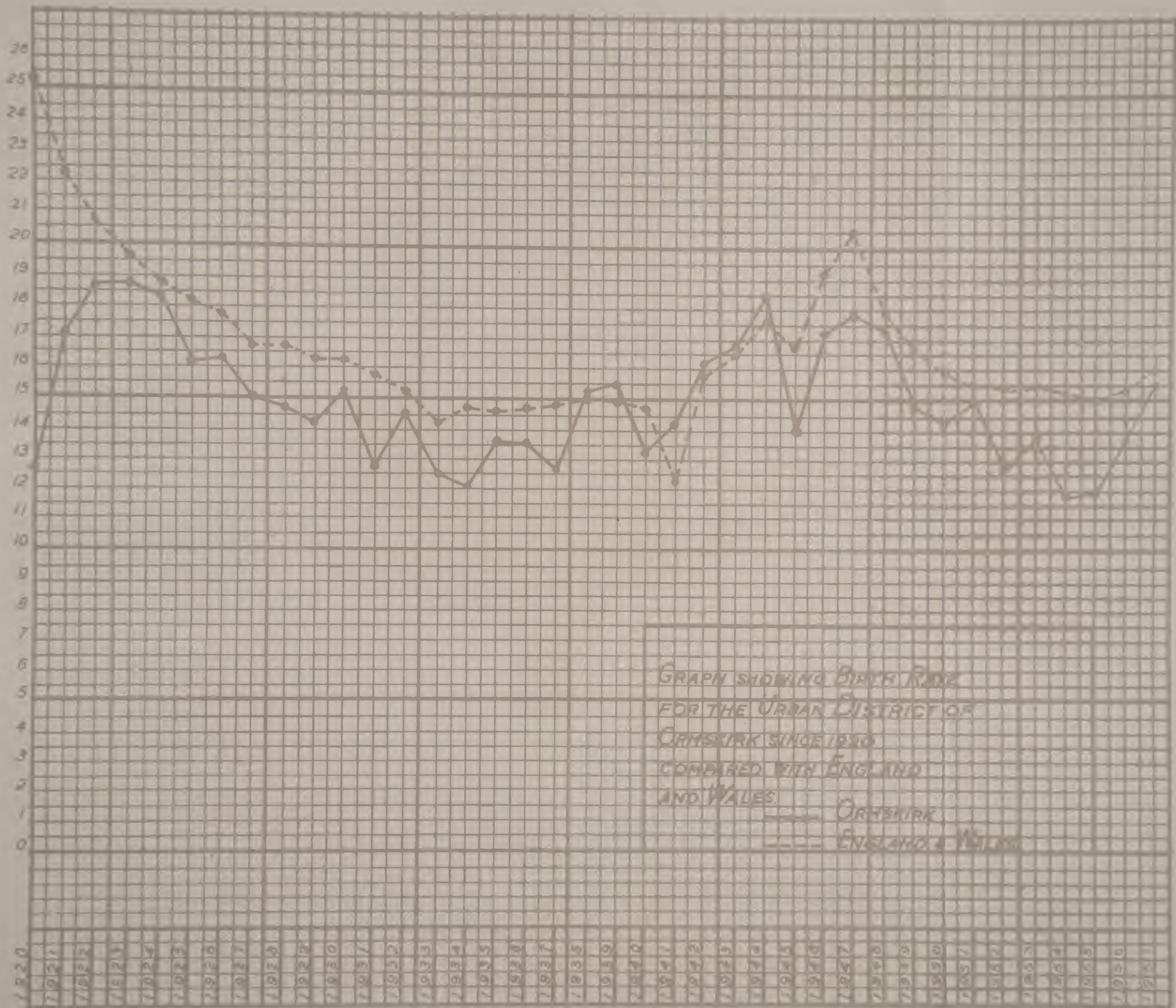
The Death rate for England and Wales was 11.5, for Ormskirk 11.9.

The Infantile Mortality rate for England and Wales was 23.0, for Ormskirk 12.

The Maternal mortality rate for England and Wales was 0.47, for Ormskirk nil.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE ORMSKIRK
URBAN DISTRICT.

	1957		Total	1956 Total	1955 Total
	M.	F.			
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	—	—	—	2	3
Tuberculosis (Other)	1	—	1	—	—
Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—	—	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—	2	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	—	1	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	1	2	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm—stomach	4	1	5	5	4
Malignant Neoplasm—lung, Bronchus	9	5	14	6	7
Malignant Neoplasm—breast	—	5	5	2	3
Malignant Neoplasm—uterus	—	2	2	3	4
Other Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	12	7	19	18	28
Leukæmia, aleukæmia	1	—	1	3	—
Diabetes	2	3	5	1	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	13	21	34	31	39
Coronary disease, angina	21	10	31	40	41
Hypertension with heart disease	5	6	11	20	18
Other heart disease	15	15	30	29	33
Other circulatory disease	7	10	17	18	8
Influenza	1	1	2	3	1
Pneumonia	6	4	10	14	9
Bronchitis	12	7	19	18	13
Other diseases of respiratory system	—	1	1	2	4
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—	1	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa	1	—	1	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	3	4	7	1	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1	2	4
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	—	—	—	2	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	15	9	24	30	28
Motor vehicle accidents	3	—	3	1	2
All other accidents	5	2	7	7	7
Suicide	—	—	—	2	3
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—	2	—
All causes	140	114	254	265	269



GRAPH SHOWING DEATH RATE
 FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF
 OXFORD SINCE 1920
 COMPARED WITH ENGLAND
 AND WALES

— OXFORD
 --- ENGLAND & WALES

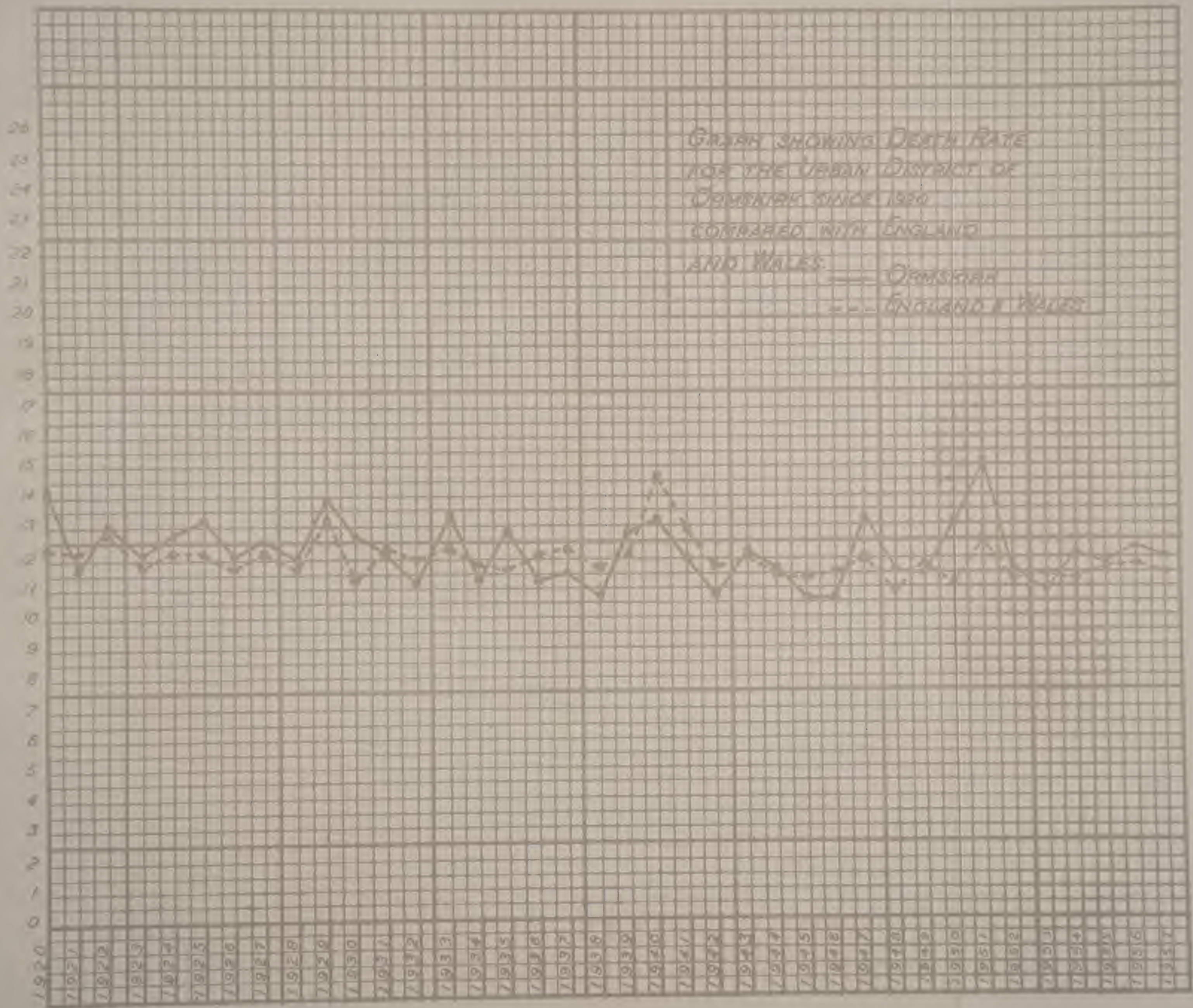


TABLE SHOWING BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES AND INFANTILE
MORTALITY RATES FOR ORMSKIRK URBAN DISTRICT

Year	Estimated Population	Birth Rate		Death Rate		Infantile Mort. Rate	
		England & Wales	Ormskirk	England & Wales	Ormskirk	England & Wales	Ormskirk
1931	17,206	15.8	12.8	12.3	12.2	66	31
1932	17,240	15.3	14.5	12.0	11.1	65	67
1933	17,410	14.4	12.5	12.3	13.4	64	82
1934	17,670	14.8	12.1	11.8	11.3	59	74
1935	17,860	14.7	13.8	11.7	12.7	57	64
1936	18,090	14.8	13.6	12.1	11.2	59	40
1937	18,300	14.9	12.6	12.4	11.5	58	68
1938	18,400	15.1	15.2	11.6	10.7	53	24
1939	18,930	15.0	15.5	12.1	12.8	50	58
1940	19,660	14.6	13.3	14.3	13.1	55	45
1941	20,490	12.2	14.3	12.9	12.0	59	68
1942	20,200	15.8	16.6	11.6	10.8	49	41
1943	19,250	16.5	16.9	12.1	12.2	49	64
1944	18,500	17.6	18.5	11.6	11.7	46	75
1945	19,320	16.1	14.0	11.4	10.8	46	18
1946	20,360	19.1	17.4	11.5	10.6	43	39
1947	20,990	20.5	17.8	12.0	13.4	41	64
1948	20,030	17.9	17.2	10.8	11.6	34	55
1949	20,100	16.7	14.8	11.7	11.5	32	47
1950	20,110	15.8	14.5	11.6	13.1	29.8	27
1951	20,920	15.5	15.0	12.5	15.2	29.6	57
1952	21,180	15.3	12.7	11.3	11.5	27.6	41
1953	21,230	15.5	13.8	11.4	10.9	26.8	34
1954	21,340	15.2	11.8	11.3	12.1	25.5	29
1955	21,280	15.0	11.9	11.7	11.8	24.9	12
1956	21,350	15.7	13.8	11.7	12.2	23.8	25
1957	21,420	16.1	15.5	11.5	11.9	23.0	12

SECTION 2.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Ambulance services are provided by the Lancashire County Council under the provisions of the National Health Service Act 1946.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

Home nursing is carried out by the Lancashire County Council under the provisions of the National Health Service Act 1946.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

All hospitals were taken over by the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board and maintained by them from July, 1948.

The Ormskirk County Hospital now takes all types of cases and has a consultant and resident staff. The Ormskirk General Hospital accommodates chronic and convalescent cases only. Out Patient Sessions are held at both these hospitals.

The Ormskirk Infectious Diseases Hospital has been converted to a Children's Convalescent Hospital while cases of Infectious Disease from the Urban District of Ormskirk are now sent to the New Hall Isolation Hospital, Scarisbrick.

SECTION 3.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

With the exception of the area adjacent to the parishes of Scarisbrick, Aughton and Bickerstaffe, the Urban District is supplied from the Council's Waterworks undertakings, situated at Dark Lane and Greetby Hill.

The supply at Greetby Hill is obtained from the Bunter Rock in the New Red Sandstone, and that at Dark Lane from the Keuper and Bunter formations.

Both stations are equipped with electric plant operating vertical spindle centrifugal pumps with a combined capacity of over 100,000 gallons per hour.

The quality of water at the present time is of high organic purity and not particularly hard.

The daily supply of water in 1934 was 530,000 gallons, whilst the daily supply in 1957 was 803,772.

The bulk of the area being typically agricultural, it is unavoidable that certain isolated cottages and farms in the district still obtain their supplies from wells. The number of properties not on public supply only amounts to 0.2% of the houses in the area. During the year the following new watermains have been laid. Extensions to new housing Estates, 418 yards.

ANALYSIS OF WATER SUPPLY.

15th April, 1957.

GREETBY HILL WORKS.

	Station No. 1	Station No. 2.
Analytical results expressed in parts per million :—		
Total solid matter in solution	446.8	309.2
Oxygen required to oxidise in—		
15 minutes	None.	None.
4 hours	None.	None.
Ammoniacal nitrogen as N.	None.	None.
Albuminoid nitrogen as N.	None.	None.
Nitrous nitrogen as N.	None.	None.
Nitric nitrogen as N.	5.7	6.6
Combined chlorine	48.0	40.0
Total hardness	316	225
pH value	6.4	6.2
Colour	None.	None.
Appearance	Clear.	Clear.
Smell	None.	None.
Suspended matter	None.	None.

The water organically is very pure and though hard is quite fit for drinking and domestic purposes.

The water organically is very pure and though moderately hard is quite fit for drinking and domestic purposes.

DARK LANE WORKS.

Analytical results expressed in parts per million :—

Total solid matter in solution	.....	143.2
Oxygen required to oxidise in—	15 mins.	None.
	4 hours	None.
Ammoniacal nitrogen as N.	.....	None.
Albuminoid nitrogen as N.	.....	None.
Nitrous nitrogen as N.	.....	None.
Nitric nitrogen as N.	.....	4.8
Combined chlorine	.....	30.0
Total hardness	.....	84
pH value	.....	5.8
Colour	.....	None.
Appearance	.....	Clear.
Smell	.....	None.
Suspended matter	.....	None.

The water organically
is very pure and quite
fit for drinking and
domestic purposes.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The Council maintain three Sewage Disposal Works which deal with Ormskirk, Burscough and Westhead. The sewage is passed through sedimentation tanks and sludge drying beds, the surface effluent being treated by rotary filter and discharged into brooks.

The New Lane works was enlarged in 1943 in order to deal with increased flow due to the Royal Naval Air Station.

The dry weather flow at Ormskirk is 600,000 gallons per day.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION AT THE END OF 1957.

Number of fresh water closets	.....	5,903
" " pail closets	.....	50
" " waste water closets	.....	Nil
" " privies	.....	712
" " privy middens	.....	680
" " dry ashpits	.....	Nil
" " dustbins	.....	7,260

CONVERSIONS.

During the year three privy closets (with three privy middens attached) were converted, and three dustbins were provided. From the 1st of April, 1951 the Council approved a scheme of municipal bin ownership, whereby replacement of defective refuse containers at private dwelling houses is carried out by the Council. During this year, 530 new bins were provided, making a total of 2975 new containers supplied since the scheme commenced.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

This work is carried out by the Council's own employees. Three motor vehicles each with four men and a driver, and one motor vehicle (part time) is provided. Refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping on a site at Burscough, which was previously a clay pit.

The Council's rodent operative visits the tip at regular intervals.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Number of premises inspected—

Houses	.....	842
Bakehouses	.....	10
Factories	.....	59
Outworkers premises	Factories Act	12
Dairies	.....	6
Slaughter houses	.....	2
Shops	.....	41
Other premises	.....	62
Number of defects or nuisances discovered	.....	384
Number abated	.....	361
Number of notices served : Informal	163.	Statutory 28.

CANAL BOATS.

During the year two canal boats were inspected and their condition was found to be satisfactory.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are now no common lodging houses in the district.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no public swimming baths or pools in the district. There are two privately-owned swimming baths but they are not open to the public.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

During the year thirty four observations were taken and warnings were given in seven cases. It was not found necessary to take any formal action.

A Byelaw made in pursuance of Section 2 of the Public Health (Smoke Abatement) Act, 1926, is in force and prescribes that the emission of black smoke for a period of two minutes in the aggregate within any continuous period of thirty minutes from any one chimney in a building other than a private dwelling-house shall, until the contrary is proved, be presumed to be a nuisance.

CAMPING SITES—MOVABLE DWELLINGS.

There are no licensed camping sites in the area. Eight movable dwellings were licensed under the provisions of Sec. 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

This service is carried out under a joint scheme by the West Lancashire Rural District Council on a percentage of costs basis.

Disinfection of bedding and clothing is by steam disinfection. During 1957 the following work was carried out :—

	Disinfection	Disinfestation.
Journeys	48	4
Rooms sprayed ..	23	7
Houses	11	4
No. of Articles	172	—

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The following visits in connection with Rodent Control were made during the year :—

Dwelling houses 1297 ; Business premises 301 ; Local authority properties 242 ; Sewers and Sewage Works 159.

A total of 316 new minor infestations were discovered and dealt with. The bait bases used were sausage rusk, bread rusk and oatmeal, and the poisons were zinc phosphide, arsenic and warfarin.

The half-yearly maintenance treatment of the sewers was carried out in March.

A test baiting of the manholes in the area was made in August and was followed in September by the half-yearly maintenance treatment. Treatment is carried out in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food.

SECTION 4. HOUSING.

There is still a definite shortage of houses in the district.

At the end of the year the Council had schemes in progress for the erection of 79 houses and 18 flats. Further schemes for the erection of 72 houses and 24 bungalows, are contemplated.

The general standard of housing can be classed as good. Many of the older houses are in need of repair and these are being dealt with as quickly as possible, but the high cost of repair work and renewals and the low rents received for many houses have caused landlords to be reluctant to carry out any but the minimum of work.

During the year representations were made to the Council by the Medical Officer of Health respecting 67 houses which were deemed to be unfit for human habitation. These consisted of 10 individual houses and two areas of 40 houses and 17 houses respectively.

(a) Statistics.

Number of new houses and flats erected during the year—

TOTAL	139
(i) By the Local Authority Houses 59 ; Flats 12	71
(ii) By other Local Authorities	—
(iii) By other bodies and persons	68
Total number of Council Houses (a) Before 1945	300
„ „ Council Houses and Flats (b) After 1945	852
Total	1152

1. *Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the year—*

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	644
(b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, for the purpose	1171

(2)	Dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit :	
(a)	Number found during the year.	7
(b)	Number (or estimated number) at end of year	207
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit	242
2.	<i>Clearance Areas Housing Act, 1936 and Housing Repairs Act, 1954 :—</i>	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished during year	
(a)	Unfit houses	3
(b)	Other houses	Nil
(2)	Number of persons displaced	33
3.	<i>Houses not included in Clearance Areas :—</i>	
(1)	Houses demolished or closed during year :	
(a)	Housing Act, 1936—	
(i)	Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (Section 11)	3
(ii)	Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under Section II and still in force	2
(iii)	Parts of building closed (Section 12)	Nil
(b)	Housing Act, 1949—	
(i)	Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 3(1) and 3(2).	Nil
(c)	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953—	
(i)	Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 10(1) and 11(2)	4
(2)	Repairs during the year :	
(a)	Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts	192
(b)	Public Health Acts—action after service of formal notice—Houses in which defects were remedied—	
(i)	By owners	32
(ii)	By local authority in default of owners	Nil
(c)	Housing Act, 1936—action after service of formal notice (Sections 9, 10, 11 and 16). Houses made fit	

(i) By owners	Nil
(ii) By local authority in default of owners	Nil
(d) Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 : Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved and demolition orders revoked Section 5	Nil
4. <i>Unfit houses in temporary use (Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954) :—</i>	
(1) Number of houses at end of year retained for temporary accommodation and approved for grant under Section 7 ..	Nil
(2) Number of separate dwellings contained in (1) above ..	Nil
(3) Number of houses at end of year licensed for temporary occupation (Section 6) ..	Nil

SECTION 5.

S C H O O L S .

The Urban District is provided with sixteen schools. These include one Grammar School, two Secondary Modern Schools, ten Primary Schools, one Nursery School, and Two Private Schools.

With the exception of the latter, all the schools are in Division 11 of the Lancashire County Council Divisional Administration Scheme. 1944.

LIST OF SCHOOLS IN THE ORMSKIRK URBAN DISTRICT

School	Total No. of Children on Roll at 1st Jan., 1957
Burscough St. John's C.E. (Mxd. & Infnts'.Depts.)	194
Burscough Methodist	203
Burscough R.C.	96
Lathom Park C.E.	25
Newburgh C.E.	108
Lathom St. James' C.E.	76
Burscough Lordsgate Township C.E.	193
Ormskirk C.E. (Junior mixed)	628
(Infants)	293
Ormskirk St. Anne's R.C. (Mxd. & Infnts, Depts)	250
Ormskirk St. Bede's R.C. Secondary School	360
Ormskirk Secondary Modern School, Boys	310
Girls	274
Ormskirk Grammar School	739
Ormskirk Moorgate Nursery School	44
Ormskirk High School	200
Arranmore Preparatory School	44
Total :—	4037

TABLE SHOWING THE SANITARY CONDITIONS OF SCHOOLS IN
THE URBAN DISTRICT

School	Washing Accommodation.	Cloakroom	Closet Accommodation.	Drainage.
St. John's (Senior) C.E.	4 basin girls, 3 boys	Separate	6 W.C's. girls, 4 W.C's boys.	Public Sewer
St. John's (Junior) C.E.	6 basins, 1 sink	One only	3 W.C's used in common.	" "
Burscough Bridge Meth.	3 basins girls, 2 boys, 3 infants	Separate	4 W.C's. girls, 4 boys, 4 infants	" "
St. John's R.C.	4 basins for communal use	One only	5 W.C's girls, 5 boys	" "
Lathom Park C.E.	2 basins boys 2 " girls 1 " staff Two sinks girls	Two	4 W.C's 1 W.C. staff	Septic tank
Newburgh C.E.		Separate	4 Pail closets girls and infants, 2 boys	Road Drain
Lathom St. James' C.E.	5 basins	Separate	5 W.C's girls 3 W.C's and urinal boys 1 W.C. staff	Public Sewer
Lordsgate Township	6 basins girls, 4 boys	Separate	4 W.C's. girls, 3 boys	" "
Ormskirk C.E. Jun. Mixed	20 basins girls 20 basins boys	Separate	20 W.C's. girls 20 W.C's boys	" "
Ormskirk C.E. Infants	20 basins girls 20 basins boys	Separate	19 W.C's. girls 12 W.C's. boys	" "
St. Anne's R.C.	4 basins in passage 3 basins girls 3 " boys, in hut	Separate	5 W.C's Infants and girls, 3 W.C's boys	" "
Ormskirk St. Bedes R.C. Secondary	18 basins girls 18 basins boys	Separate	18 W.C's girls 6 W.C's & 2 Urinals boys	" "
Wigan Rd. Secondary	13 basins girls, 13 boys	Separate	14 W.C's. girls, 5 boys	" "

All the Schools have a main water supply

During the year 1957 the following improvements and repairs have been carried out at schools in the district :—

LATHOM PARK C.E.

- Flush toilets—replaced sanitary pails.
- New wash basins with hot water service in cloakrooms.
- Playgrounds asphalted.

ST. JAMES' C.E. (Westhead).

- Improved natural lighting.
- Entrance gates fitted.

ST. ANNE'S R.C.

- (1) Playgrounds re-surfaced.
- (2) Outside walls pointed or re-built.
- (3) Roof of boys urinal repaired.

BURSCOUGH METHODISTS.

- (1) New wash basins with hot and cold water.
- (2) Asphalted playground for girls.
- (3) New draining boards for the school dining room.

ST. JOHN'S C.E., BURSCOUGH.

The following work has been completed in the Junior Dept. :—

- (a) Re-boarding of floor. General improvement in absence of dust.
- (b) Conversion of girls toilets to independent flushing.
- (d) Re-building of urinal for boys.

All Ormskirk and district schools have been supplied with paper towels and liquid soap.

ORMSKIRK SCHOOL CLINIC AND CHILD WELFARE
CENTRE, GENERAL HOSPITAL, HANTS LANE.

Child Welfare Centre	Each Monday afternoon.
Minor Ailments Clinic	Each Monday morning & Wednesday afternoon.
Orthopædic Clinic	First Monday in each month.
Orthopædic Treatment Clinic	Each Tuesday.
Ante-natal Clinic	Each Friday morning.
Eye Clinic	Each Monday afternoon.
Dental Clinic	Each Tuesday & Friday.
Speech Clinic	Each Tuesday afternoon.

BURSCOUGH CHILD WELFARE CLINIC (OLD COUNCIL
OFFICES).

Child Welfare Clinic	Each Thursday afternoon.
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IMMUNISATION CLINIC.

The Clinic, Ormskirk General Hospital.	Every fourth Thursday afternoon.
Burscough Council Offices.	1st Monday in month (afternoon).

VACCINATION CLINIC.

The Clinic, Ormskirk General Hospital.	Each Monday afternoon in conjunction with Child Welfare Clinic.
Burscough Council Offices.	First Monday in the month (afternoon) in conjunction with Immunisation Clinic.

SECTION 6

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD. SAMPLES OF MILK FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Nineteen samples of milk were taken and submitted for various bacteriological tests, with the following results:—

Phosphatase Test	.....	12	satisfactory
Methylene Blue			
Reduction Test	.....	12	„ 1 unsatisfactory.
Turbidity test	..	6	„
Inoculation test for T.B.	....	4	negative.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS

These Regulations require the registration by the local authority of persons carrying on the trade of distributors of milk from premises within their area, and of premises within their district, not being dairy farms, which are used as dairies.

The Special Designation Regulations provide for the issue of yearly licences by the local authority authorising the use of Special Designations (Tuberculin Tested; Pasteurised; Sterilised) in relation to milk sold in their area.

The number of registrations granted and licences issued is as follows:—

Registrations.		Licences in relation to		
Dairies.	Distributors	T.T. Milk	Pasteur- ised Milk	Sterilised Milk
6	32	25	28	34

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (SPECIFIED AREAS) (No. 2) ORDER 1955.

The Urban District of Ormskirk is included in the order as a specified area in which all milk sold by retail for human consumption must be designated milk.

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (GENERAL POWERS ACT, 1951.

Section 14 of this Act, which is administered by the Council requires, under certain circumstances, the registration of hawkers of food and premises used for the storage of such food. At the end of 1957 the number of registrations was 35 hawkers, 32 premises. The number of inspections of registered premises during the year was 29.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955—SECTION 16.

This section of the Food and Drugs Act requires the registration of premises used for :—

- (a) the sale, or the manufacture for the purposes of sale, of ice cream, or the storage of ice cream intended for sale, or
- (b) the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale. (For the purposes of this subsection, the preparation of meat or fish by any process of cooking shall be deemed to be the preservation thereof).

At the end of 1957 the number of registrations was : (a) 68.

(b) 22.

During the year 94 visits were made to registered premises.

THE FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955—1956.

These Regulations became wholly operative on the 1st July, 1956 and they extend and add to the provisions in respect to the hygienic handling of food and the cleanliness, construction and maintenance of food premises, stalls, vehicles, etc. Pamphlets and posters explaining in simple form the requirements of the Regulations have been obtained and are being distributed to food premises, including stalls selling food in the open market.

ICE CREAM.

There are three premises within the Urban District at which ice cream is manufactured. In each case equipment is installed to produce ice cream in accordance with the requirements of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, and the premises are satisfactory. There are 68 premises registered for the sale of ice cream, most of which is prepacked in wrappers or cartons.

During the year 16 samples of ice cream were obtained and submitted for methylene blue reduction test. Fourteen of the samples were placed in Grades 1 and 2, and two in grade 4.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

There are two licensed slaughter houses in the district, one of which is licensed for the slaughter of pigs only.

The following table gives a summary of the carcasses inspected, and the condemnations during the year :—

	Cattle exc. cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number inspected	447	19	3	716	4287	Nil
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI						
Whole carcase condemned	—	—	—	1	5	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	24	5	—	4	103	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	5.2	26.3	—	.7	2.5	—
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.						
Whole carcase condemned	2	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	23	6	—	—	9	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	5.6	31.6	—	—	.21	—
CYSTICERCOSIS						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
The total weight of meat condemned was			Tons 1	Cwts. 10	Qrs. —	Lbs. 16
OTHER FOOD CONDEMNED.						
49 cans of meat			—	2	2	12
12 „ vegetables			—	—	—	10
8 „ milk			—	—	—	12
39 „ fruit			—	—	—	25
6 „ soup			—	—	—	3
Frozen eggs			—	5	1	—
Coconut			—	1	—	18
Pork			—	—	—	24
Total weight of food condemned			1	19	3	8

Condemned meat and offal are stained with a green dye and used for industrial purposes. Canned foods which are condemned are buried in the refuse tip.

(c) ADULTERATION.

The section of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, dealing with adulteration is administered by the Lancashire County Council, and I am indebted to Doctor Gawne, County Medical Officer of Health, for the following information :—

SAMPLES TAKEN DURING 1957.

A total of 112 samples was obtained, consisting of 44 samples of milk (2 of which were of Channel Islands milk) and 68 others comprising :—

2 Flour	4 Salt
1 Camphorated oil	1 Barley
1 Castor oil	2 Custard powder
3 Pork sausages	1 Suet
1 Rolled oats	7 Flour
1 Meat pie	1 Bicarbonate of soda
1 Tomato juice cocktail	4 Baking powder
3 Penicillin tablets	1 Golden raising powder
1 Gravy powder	3 Salad cream
3 Cornflour	4 Pickles
2 Oatmeal	3 Margarine
2 Tapioca	2 Coffee
1 Beef sausages	2 Sugar
3 Vinegar	1 Demarara sugar
3 Lemon curd	1 Caster sugar
2 Gravy salt	1 Icing sugar

The samples were submitted for analysis to the County Analyst and, with the exception of the sample detailed below, were reported by him to be genuine :—

Sample No.	Type	Result of Analysis	Action Taken
S.342	Baking Powder	Available carbon dioxide only 6.5%, minimum should be 8%	Remaining stock surrendered

ORMSKIRK MARKET.

The Ormskirk Market is an ancient institution dating from April 28th, 1286, when King Edward the First granted " a Thursday market and a five days' fair " to the town for ever. The rights in the Market appear to have been vested in the Earl of Lancaster, for on the 29th September, 1286, those rights were transferred by the Charter of Henry, Duke of Lancaster, to the Prior of Burscough Abbey on the payment of an annual sum. The alienation of these Market rights is confirmed by the Charter of Henry, Earl of Lancaster, in 1339.

The rights remained vested in the Priory until the Dissolution of the Monasteries about 1536, and after its surrender to King Henry VIII. by Robert Barton, the last prior (who died in 1553), the Priory was granted to Sir William Paget, K.G., Principal Secretary of State in 1547.

A little over a century later (on the 23rd June, 1670) King Charles II. granted to Charles, the Eighth Earl of Derby, and his successors, the right to hold and keep two fairs, one in Whitsun week and the other at the end of August in each year, and a market to be held on Thursdays.

By a conveyance dated the 30th day of September, 1876, the Rights in the Market were sold by the Earl of Derby to the Ormskirk Local Board for £1,000.

The Ormskirk Local Board made Byelaws, which were allowed by the Local Government Board on the 17th December, 1881, whereby a market was to be held on Thursday and Saturday of each week throughout the year, which were amended to provide that a market was to be held on each week day throughout the year " unless the same shall be a day duly appointed for solemn fast or public thanksgiving."

Consequent upon the amalgamation Order of 1931 whereby Ormskirk Urban District was amalgamated with the Urban District of Lathom and Burscough the byelaws lapsed and new byelaws were made on the 19th December, 1935. These included *inter alia*, the fixing of the days and hours during each day on which the market shall be held. Regulations as to the use of the market place and the buildings, stalls, pens and standings therein, and for preventing nuisances or obstructions therein, or in the immediate approaches thereto. Penalties for offences against the byelaws. A table of Tolls leviable in the market was incorporated.

The market continued to be held throughout the war years, although on a limited scale. It has now regained much of its colourfulness, and each Thursday Moor Street, Moorgate and Aughton Street are filled with market stalls and itinerant tradesmen of all kinds. The Saturday market is limited to Moor Street except for an occasional two or three stalls in Aughton Street, but nevertheless there is much trading, especially in home produce.

It is the practice of the Health Department to make regular inspections of all the market stalls and the Public Health Inspectors pay particular attention to those stalls selling foodstuffs each market day.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1.—INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspec- tions.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	3	3	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	98	49	4	—
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises).	7	7	—	—
	108	59	4	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found.	Remedied.	To H.M. Inspectors.	Referred By H.M. Inspectors.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1).	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2).	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3).	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4).	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6).	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7).	1	—	—	1	—
(a) Insufficient	7	6	—	4	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes.	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork).	—	—	—	—	—
Total	8	6	—	5	—

OUTWORKERS :

There were 13 outworkers engaged in the manufacture of wearing apparel and the making of paper receptacles notified in the August list required by Section 110 (1) (c) of the Factories Act. The out-workers premises within the Urban District were visited and found to be satisfactory.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

At the end of 1957 no filling materials were being used at registered premises.

SUMMARY OF VISITS MADE BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS DURING THE YEAR 1957.

Visits to dwelling houses (Public Health Act and Housing Acts)	1171
„ re Water Supply	15
„ „ Drainage	18
„ „ Refuse Collection and disposal	24
„ „ Rodent Control	47
„ „ Cases of Infectious Disease	22
„ to Schools	6
„ „ Shops (Shops Act)	41
„ „ Factories and Outworker's Premises	72
„ „ Slaughterhouses	272
„ „ Butchers and Grocers premises	21
„ „ Fried Fish Shops and fishmongers	11
„ „ Greengrocers and fruiterers	32
„ „ Cowsheds, dairies and milkshops	18
„ „ Ice Cream Premises	19
„ „ Cafes and Restaurants	27
„ „ Street Vendors and Hawkers carts	12
„ „ Market	176
„ in connection with Milk Sampling	29
„ „ „ „ Water Sampling	9
„ „ „ „ Food and Drugs Sampling	4
„ „ „ „ Ice Cream Sampling	21
Miscellaneous Visits	111

SALVAGE.

WASTE PAPER.—During the year a total weight of 201 tons 11 cwts. of waste paper was collected and baled. This waste paper realised a sum of £1511.

SECTION 7.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The number of cases of infectious disease notified to the Health Department during the year was 147. This figure is lower than the number of notifications for 1956, when 230 cases were notified. There were 75 cases of measles and 2 cases of whooping cough compared with 149 measles and 33 whooping cough in 1956.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Immunisation against Diphtheria has been continued during the year with satisfactory results. A total of 213 children completed a course of Immunisation, of whom 183 were below the age of two, the most important time for primary immunisation.

No case of diphtheria has occurred during the last nine years.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS.

There was a small outbreak of Acute Poliomyelitis in September. There were 14 cases of which 9 were paralytic and 5 non-paralytic. Two of the cases have since died. Close follow up of the families and contacts was maintained and close contacts were isolated as far as possible. By these means, the outbreak was kept within bounds and came to an end at the beginning of November, and no case has occurred since. The first case was a Commercial Traveller and it is probable that he brought the infection into Ormskirk.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Number of persons, in age groups, completely immunised.

Age	1935 - 1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	
Under 1 year	7	6	1	2	—	17	58	29	161	163	153	154	105	138	110	174	168	Total under 5 years at end of 1957
1 year	107	84	65	89	133	136	103	234	89	63	72	73	72	76	90	37	15	
2 years	125	99	18	11	31	39	10	25	10	13	8	12	22	8	12	4	3	
3 "	96	83	12	10	19	29	13	12	14	3	8	4	8	8	6	1	1	
4 "	120	78	20	17	14	24	11	13	3	5	9	4	18	7	5	2	6	940
5 "	273	96	22	16	41	29	20	7	5	21	4	4	29	4	8	4	7	Total 5-9 years at end of 1957
6 "	185	91	15	10	17	16	16	10	4	23	3	1	24	3	11	3	5	
7 "	185	60	9	12	33	7	7	6	4	25	3	2	26	—	10	2	2	
8 "	235	75	8	10	31	9	13	4	—	12	3	1	9	—	3	—	—	
9 "	217	61	8	7	21	2	3	1	1	12	1	—	5	—	4	1	1	1251
10 "	237	76	11	13	19	3	1	3	2	10	4	—	15	—	4	—	—	
11 "	245	75	4	14	12	2	2	3	—	10	2	—	7	—	6	2	2	
12 "	215	59	2	9	29	—	4	1	1	13	—	—	5	1	3	—	2	Total 10-15 years at end of 1957
13 "	199	42	7	3	21	2	6	2	—	8	2	—	9	—	4	—	—	
14 "	47	19	1	1	5	—	1	2	—	9	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	
15 "	14	20	5	1	—	—	4	1	1	6	—	—	3	—	—	1	1	1397
																		Total over 15 years at end of 1957 4290
	1507	1028	208	225	426	315	272	353	295	396	273	255	358	245	278	231	213	7878

Total number of children who were given reinforcing injections — 635

Total number of children under 15 who have been immunised — 3588

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1957

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.										Deaths
	Total Cases at all Ages	YEARS									
		0—	1—	3—	5—	10—	15—	25—	45—	65 & over	
Scarlet Fever	8	-	-	1	5	1	1	-	-	-	—
Measles	75	1	13	23	36	1	-	1	-	-	—
Whooping Cough	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	—
Pneumonia	28	-	-	-	6	8	3	8	1	2	10
Puerperal Pyrexia	9	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	6	-	—
Meningococcal Infection	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	—
Acute Poliomyelitis											
Paralytic	8	-	1	1	2	2	-	2	-	-	1
Non-Paralytic ..	5	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	1	-	—
Acute Encephalitis ..	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	4	-	—
Tuberculosis (Resp.) ...	8	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	4	-	—
.. (Non-Resp.)	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Totals	147	2	17	27	53	12	5	16	13	2	12

WEEKLY INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE
IN THE URBAN DISTRICT OF ORMSKIRK DURING 1957

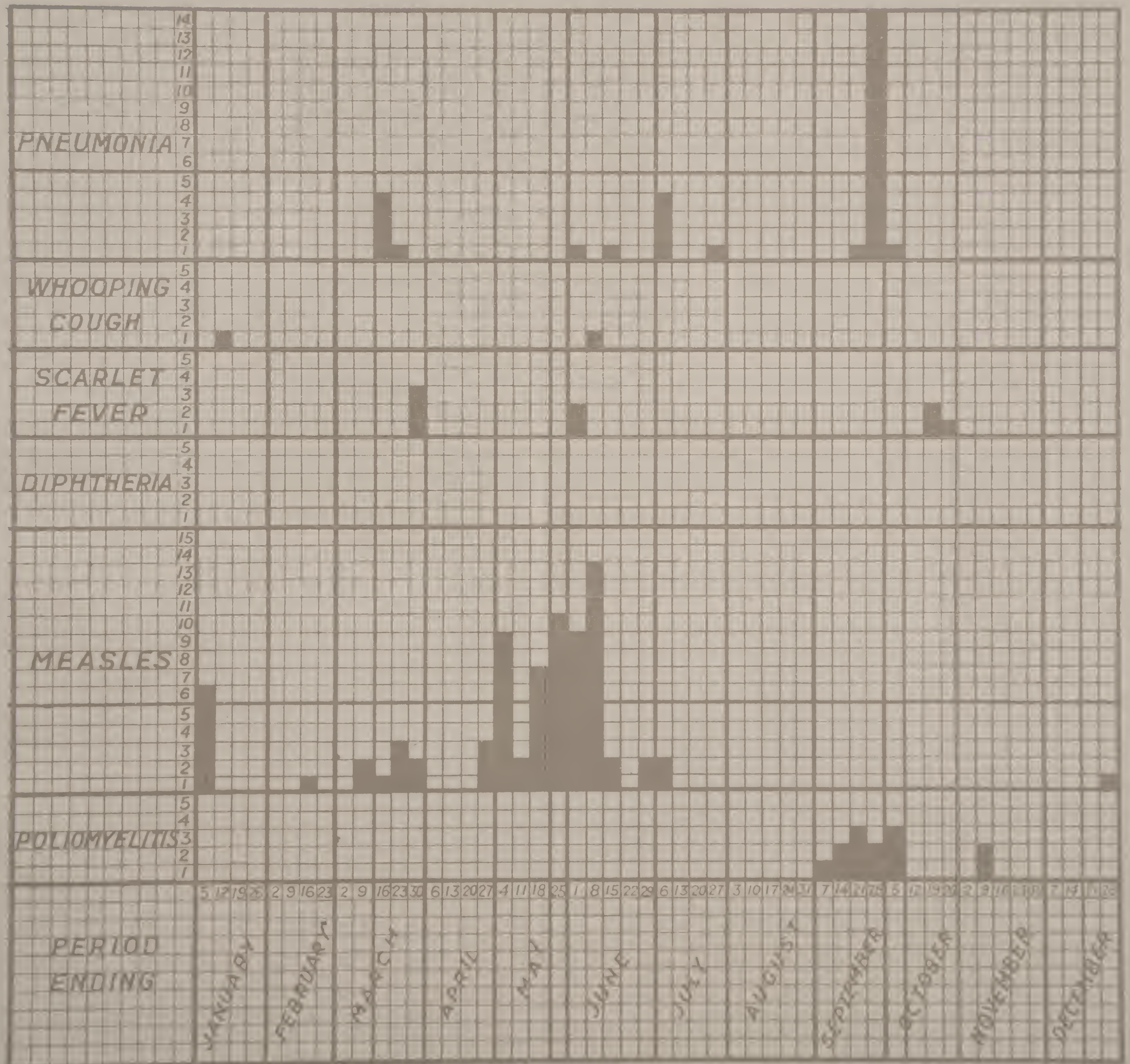


TABLE SHOWING NUMBER AND NATURE OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
COMING UNDER THE NOTICE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH DURING 1957

Disease.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Scarlet Fever			3		2					3			8
Pneumonia			5		1	1	5		15	1			28
Measles	6	1	8	3	32	17	7					1	75
Whooping Cough	1					1							2
Puerperal Pyrexia — ..	1		1					2		1	2	2	9
Erysipelas — — — —													
Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic									5	1	2		8
Non-Paralytic									3	2			5
Acute Encephalitis	1												1
Meningococcal Infection	2												2
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)			2	1		2			1	1	1		8
Tuberculosis (Non-Resp.)								1					1
Monthly Totals	11	1	19	4	35	21	12	3	24	9	5	3	147

TABLE SHOWING DISTRIBUTION OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1957

	WARDS.														Totals
	Aughton 1	Aughton 2	Derby	S'brick	Knows- ley	B'cough North	B'cough South	B'cough South 2	B'cough South 3	Lathom 1	Lathom 2	W'head 1	W'head 2		
Pneumonia	2	†15	-	2	4	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	28	
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	
Measles	-	1	1	5	1	20	4	9	1	9	24	-	-	75	
Whooping Cough ...	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
Acute Poliomyelitis— Paralytic	1	-	1	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	8	
Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	1	-	-	5	
Acute Encephalitis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	
Meningococcal Infection...	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	*8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	†	9	
Tuberculosis (Resp.) ...	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	1	-	-	1	1	-	8	
Tuberculosis (Non-Resp.)	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
	4	17	2	12	16	22	21	11	1	9	29	1	2	147	

* All these cases were notified from the County Hospital.

† All these cases were notified from Pontville School.

TABLE SHOWING INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS DURING
PAST 20 YEARS

Disease	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938
Scarlet Fever	8	3	9	8	56	15	14	20	14	27	41	43	34	50	89	29	24	23	40	29
Diphtheria	75	149	259	18	458	116	210	175	75	2	8	6	15	20	35	41	62	37	24	6
* Measles	2	36	17	49	159	56	118	65	53	35	17	6	291	26	279	9	18	48	—	—
* Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	11	9	27	10	1	—
Para Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	28	17	49	14	15	18	15	13	18	22	8	14	32	20	46	19	34	35	21	29
Erysipelas	—	1	1	—	4	3	2	1	—	1	1	3	4	1	2	8	12	7	9	2
Dysentery	—	—	2	131	1	23	5	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	13	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Acute Polioencephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	2	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	9	9	11	22	10	17	15	15	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	2	2	3	2	6
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	2	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	8	11	11	20	23	21	25	15	12	12	—	—	2	1	1	3	6	2	—	—
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	1	—	1	2	—	5	2	2	2	6	4	10	12	10	20	13	18	12	11	12
Tuberculosis (Non-Respiratory)	147	230	361	298	729	275	406	311	175	503	251	92	397	144	492	145	217	189	114	88

*Measles and Whooping Cough were not notifiable prior to 1939.



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